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Letter dated 5 April 2012 from the Permanent Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to forward to you a copy of the concept paper for the Security Council briefing on the theme "Nuclear non-proliferation, disarmament and security", to be held on 19 April 2012 (see annex).

I would be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Susan E. **Rice**

12-28560 (E) 120412

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Annex to the letter dated 5 April 2012 from the Permanent Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Security Council meeting on nuclear non-proliferation, disarmament and security

Concept paper

In September 2009, the Security Council conducted an unprecedented summit-level event on nuclear non-proliferation, disarmament and security and adopted resolution 1887 (2009), in which it resolved to seek a safer world for all and to create the conditions for a world without nuclear weapons and stated that the Council is gravely concerned about the threat of nuclear terrorism. That resolution recognized the need for all States to take effective measures to prevent nuclear material or technical assistance becoming available to terrorists. With the conclusion of the second Nuclear Security Summit in Seoul at the end of March 2012, it is the appropriate time to take stock of these international efforts and reaffirm our commitme t to continue to make progress in this regard.

The many multilateral and bilateral efforts since 2009 are part of a comprehensive approach to reducing global nuclear dangers and risks. The threats are urgent and real, and the role of the Security Council in addressing these dangers is unique and indispensable.

During April 2012, the United States of America will convene a meeting of the Security Council on nuclear non proliferation, disarmament and security to renew the Council's attention and determination to address these important issues. The goal of this meeting will be to underscore the recent global efforts and progress on combating threats of nuclear proliferation and terrorism; highlight broadly shared interests and mutually reinforcing responsibilities to respond to these threats; and emphasize the steps taken to reduce nuclear dangers.

This meeting will allow Council members to underscore the importance of an accelerated effort to secure nuclear material around the world and to build support for establishing and sharing best practices for nuclear security. The Council should endorse the work of the Nuclear Security Summit and urge States to commit to improve nuclear security practices.

This meeting will also be an opportunity to recognize the progress made through the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism and the Global Partnership against the Spread of Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction and support the proposal of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to organize an international conference in 2013 to strengthen coordination and complementarity among nuclear security activities.

The Council will be able to reaffirm its support for the work of IAEA, including its role in implementing effective safeguards and in promoting the safe, secure and peaceful use of nuclear energy and underscore the importance of effective nuclear security. It will provide an opportunity to reinforce the importance of the implementation of its resolution 1540 (2004) by each Member State, including through reaffirmation of a commitment to the 1540 Committee and its efforts to improve the ability of States to prevent the proliferation of weapons of

mass destruction and related materials and their means of delivery by non-State actors.

Additionally, this meeting will take stock of several achievements over the past three years, including, inter alia, the Nuclear Security Summits, the 2010 NPT Review Conference, the adoption of resolution 1977 (2011) extending the mandate of the 1540 Committee for 10 years, the entry into force and successful implementation of the New START Treaty, the contributions made to non-proliferation by progress in the development of nuclear-weapon-free zones, the extension of the Global Partnership beyond its original mandate, the additional ratifications of the 2005 Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material, the recent adoptions of the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism, the establishment by the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) of its Radiological and Nuclear Terrorism Prevention Unit and the United Nations September 2011 High-level Meeting on Nuclear Safety and Security.